DRAFT – Do Not Cite or Distribute

Libby Lab Team Conference Call Notes

March 19, 2002

Attendees:

Rob DeMalo (EMSL)
Charlie (EMSL)
Anni Autio (CDM)
Mary Goldade (EPA)
Mark Raney (Volpe)
Jeannie Orr (Reservoirs)
Richard (CDM) .
Charles Lindenbalm (CDM)
Bill Brattin (SRC)

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1. Sample inventory/progress at Reservoirs & EMSL discussed.

2. Rob will send an email to Chris Weis regarding his Market Research request on possibilities for removing slip covers on archived PLM samples. Peter Frasca would like to obtain a couple of the archived samples to look at them w/o altering them.

3. TEM Data Entry Spreadsheet Version 21c Autosave problem. **Rob.** When use click/save button saves to last directory it saves in. **Bill.** 3 options: 1) SRC can modify the macro to call for the directory you want the file to be saved. This requires accurate typing on the part of the entry clerk; 2) Hardwire the default directory into the software for each lab. If EMSL & Reservoirs want, send the directory path to SRC and this will be accomplished. 3) EMSL/Reservoirs should check the Readme page of the template.....instructions for opening the file through Excel rather than Explorer are discussed there. **Labs** will test the instructions, see if it works... if not SRC will fix the problem the way it works best as requested by the labs.

4. USGS preparing Interim Quartz PE sample. This will serve as a starting point to assess instrument capabilities for SEM & IR

    $\lambda=1394$ richiterite, winchite (Libby amphibole)
    Not scanned: a) amosite, chrysidolite, (other amphiboles)
                            b) $\lambda= \sim 1400$ chrysotile & Libby soil overlapping peak chrysotile (matrix interference)

There's a potential for chrysotile be in Libby soil, but we would miss this by IR screening alone. This can be seen by confirmation through another method (ie PLM, etc.)

What is EPA's goal for chrysotile testing as part of the RI????

5.   <u>EMSL IR Confidential Business Information Concerns</u>. EMSL is currently preparing their IR SOP. They know that their procedure is much different than what the USGS is performing and want protect their research from other labs "just taking their work and make money on it". Rob wants to know if EPA be able to keep the CBI process for EMSL SOP...

Follow-up conversation with Anni & Mark

1) Anni is not sure whether there is another lab that can perform IR analysis.

My impressions/input to date:

1.   We need to discuss whether chrysotile is needed as part of RI, and if so to what extent. Does it need to be characterized for every sample or at a lower frequency..? We could look at quantifying chrysotile at the start of the project and assess the data and readjust as we continue.
2.   EMSL's CBI concerns seem unrealistic. I can't see how we can absolutely protect an SOP from distribution to the Libby team and potentially ultimately to Grace, etc... Can we discuss this w/ Matt? Just another reason to avoid complete sole sourcing.
3.   We need to encourage the USGS to publish their IR methods used at Libby (I'm told this was in progress but put on backburner w/ WTC work)....the project has a skeleton IR SOP that the GS could provide comments for improvement on. This SOP could be circulated to other prospective labs.
4.   Once the initial 1 kg. Interim Quartz PE sample is prepared, we need to have USGS (Steve Wilson) launch into the soil version of that. It's my opinion that we'll get a greater understanding of matrix effects associated w/ the methods then. Note: I suggest having Steve prepare 2 interim soils: one from Denver Fed Center soil (amphibole free) and one from Libby (low level amphibole).
5.   Anni seems to be back pedaling on whether there is another lab available to do IR work. I've asked Jeff M. to find out 1) what the status of the contract is; 2) ensure that the contract allows for CDM to verify lab's claims to measuring asbestos (ie PE sample analysis, lab audits as necessary, etc) prior to contract award; 3) find out specifically where CDM Inc. stands in the procurement process.